

America's FUTURE

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NO BREAK FOR THE TAXPAYER

The budget which the President sent to Congress on the 18th of January was described by one newspaper as "characterizing the cautious approach to spending." There are a whole string of words in our language which have been so twisted that their true meaning is lost. And I guess the word "cautious" is now one of them. The President wants to spend the fantastic sum of 80 billion dollars in the coming fiscal year. There is certainly nothing cautious about that - except, perhaps,

by comparison with other big spenders in both parties who want to spend even more of your money.

Despite all the talk about economy, this spending program is actually higher than the one for the current year. But the blow to the poor American taxpayer is supposed to be softened by a prediction. It is that there will be a surplus of around four billion dollars. That is, the government will spend four billions less than it takes in. However, this is only a

prediction. It is not based on something we can depend on, such as reduced spending by the government. It is based on the hope that tax collections will be higher - that Americans will make more money and so pay more taxes.

The President has rightly suggested that if this rather nebulous surplus materializes it should be applied to the national debt. If we don't do something about that debt, which is creeping close to the \$300-billion mark, we are going to be in real trouble. There is an item in the budget of 9½ billion dollars, just to pay interest on the debt. That's more money - for interest alone - than it cost to run the entire government before the Second World War.

Nevertheless, there seems to be a notion that no matter how much the American people

are able to earn, they should be permitted to keep only a small part of it. A quick glance at the budget will reveal that there are plenty of places to cut - if the politicians were interested in a sound fiscal policy. A really sound policy means not only reducing the debt, but giving the taxpayers a break. Consider, for instance, only two items out of many. The President wants more than four billion dollars for additional foreign handouts. And there is another four billion dollars in the budget for domestic handouts to keep the price of farm products high. That's a total of eight billion dollars for only two items out of hundreds. The American taxpayer could spend the money a whole lot better than the politicians, if only he were allowed to keep it.

NOTHING WAS SETTLED

Everybody and his brother - and especially the politicians - have now had their say about the settlement in the steel dispute. But getting down to brass tacks, who won and who lost? Generally speaking, there were two winners - the labor-union bosses, and the forces of inflation. There

were three losers - the American people, their free enterprise system, and the steelworkers themselves. Over it all lay the dark shadow of the government, in the person of politicians who always use their power in favor of the loudest pressure groups.

The settlement was a victory

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for the labor-union bosses for several reasons. They got nearly as much as they expected in wage rates and fringe benefits. Much more important, their monopoly power — the power of a handful of labor leaders to shut down an entire industry — remained unchallenged. Most important of all, it is now obvious that the government intervened in behalf of the labor bosses. There was a lot of brave talk from the President and others that both sides must make compromises. But in the end, the pressure on the steel companies to give in was so great as to be almost irresistible.

The forces of inflation won a victory. It is inconceivable

that a settlement costing the steel companies around 600 million dollars will not eventually bring about an increase in the price of steel. Steel is basic to many of the products we buy. Therefore the dollar — which now buys, on the average, only about 47 cents' worth of goods — before long will buy even less. And the steel settlement will set an example for similar inflationary contracts in other industries.

Now for the losers. The American people as a whole lost, because everything will cost more, and because they still remain at the mercy of the labor-union bosses. The American free-enterprise system lost, because the most important issue in the steel dispute was not settled. This issue was called "work rules." But it really meant the right of management to manage. The steel industry will continue to have trouble meeting foreign competition because of inefficient and unproductive methods and practices forced on it by the union bosses.

The steelworkers — the union members who work in the steel industry — were big losers too. They may think their union bosses won for them a great victory. But they lost,

on an average, nearly \$2000 in wages for each steelworker while he was out on strike. *U.S. News & World Report* estimates that it will take the workers nearly five years to make up that loss, even at the higher wage rates. In the meantime, the inevitable inflation will cut down the

purchasing power of their seemingly increased wages.

In other words, the steel settlement really settled nothing. It merely postponed, and aggravated, the evil day when the chickens of inflation, labor monopoly, and government intervention, all come home to roost.

THE DOUBLE STANDARD

Now a word about these so-called neo-Nazi outrages which have been occupying so much space in the newspapers. The evidence is piling up that the defacement of synagogues and churches in West Germany was sparked by the Russian communists. Their idea, of course, was to smear West Germany, at a time when the Western leaders are getting ready for pow-wows with Boss Khrushchev. Chairman Walter, of the House Un-American Activities Committee, said he believed, from confidential reports, that this was a Red plot. And the New York *Daily News* reported that British Intelligence came into possession of written directives from Moscow to its agents abroad. The plot was to give a black eye to West Germany, and frighten Jews and Catholics all over the

world into opposing her rearmament.

The incidents spread sporadically to other parts of the world, including America. This was due, I suspect, partly to the communist plot and partly to imitation by young punks and crackpots bent solely on troublemaking. But what interested me particularly was the double standard we seem to apply to two types of troublemakers. In New York City three young punks with outlandish Nazi notions were picked up by the police. A New York judge ordered charges of treason brought against them - a charge which, if proved, could bring the death penalty. The judge said that in his mind "treason exists where one plots a war against society and his government." It goes without saying that I am not condoning what these

young hoodlums did, or planned to do. But contrast this treatment of these would-be Nazis, with the treatment accorded to communists - not only by local judges but by the Supreme Court of the United States. What else is an American communist doing, if he is not plotting a war against society and his government? But our courts and

leaders treat Reds with kid gloves. Evidently the big crime is stupidity. Boldly and brashly paint a swastika - and you're guilty of treason. But cleverly and slyly undermine our schools, our government and our most sacred institutions - and our so-called "liberals" will see to it that no one bothers you.

- John T. Flynn

Foregoing items covered in Mutual network broadcast 1/24/60

Book Review

TO EXCITE GREAT INTEREST

THE CASE FOR THE SOUTH by William D. Workman, Jr., 309 pages, Devin-Adair, N. Y., \$5.00.

"If the two races are to meet upon terms of social equality, it must be the result of natural affinities, a mutual appreciation of each other's merits, and a voluntary consent of individuals."

Mr. Workman's book begins and ends with these words. They are not his, but those of a Supreme Court of the United States. They were uttered at a time long past, when the Court was composed of judges steeped in American constitutional law - not of a group of socio-political

theorists bent on demolishing the American Republic.

Between the first quotation and its repetition 300 pages later are 15 truly sensational chapters. We mean sensational not in the usual sense of lurid or emotional, but, as some dictionaries put it, "fitted to excite great interest." Here, for the first time between the covers of a book, is a calm, factual appraisal of the South's position on forced integration of the races and all its related subjects.

Mr. Workman looks at his native region neither through the rose-colored glasses of a pre-Civil War sentimental-

ist, nor as a "liberal moderate" or bigoted KKK'er. He is a first-rate reporter, with a distinguished career on the Columbia (S.C.) *News & Courier*, as well as in magazine, radio and television work. He writes frankly - even bluntly - about such "untouchable" topics as "The Dark Multitude," "Mixing the Races," "Agitation, Incorporated," "The Black Shadow of Politics" - to name a few of his chapter headings. In so doing, he has pierced what he rightly terms the "paper curtain" which has given people in the North such a distorted and deliberately inaccurate picture of their fellow Americans in the Southern states.

This book will be widely read in the South, but it should be even more widely read in the North for two reasons. First, the race question in the United States is no longer a purely Southern problem. And it is being exacerbated - to the nearly permanent damage of both whites and blacks - by hypocrites, power-hungry politicians, and malcontents who

have other axes to grind.

In the second place, when the Supreme Court issued its unconstitutional ukase of 1954 in the school cases, it struck a mortal blow at the liberty of every American - North, South, East and West; white, black, yellow and tan. And in the bargain it reversed by nearly a hundred years the slowly evolving pattern of amicable race relations in a free society.

Mr. Workman pulls no punches. There are things in his book which Southerners will not like. There is much more to make the decent Northerner blush with shame. But the South does have a case, and upon the North's understanding of that case depends the preservation of the Union and the liberty of its citizens, no matter what their color. The people of our Southern states comprise a fourth of the nation. Is it too much to ask that the other three-quarters consider their case (which in many respects is theirs too) minus the mouthings of the politicians and the agitation of the NAACP?

- Rosalie Gordon

"The people never give up their liberty but under some delusion."

- Edmund Burke

THERE'S A LIMIT

"The President is deeply desirous that we keep shoveling out billions' worth of wealth to small, busted countries - 'just as we drew on Europe for assistance in our earlier years.' Europe set up no handout or giveaway programs for our ancestors in those years. Foreign capital came in here determined to make big profits, and did so.

"There's a limit to what we can do to help other nations without busting ourselves."

- from an editorial in the N. Y. DAILY NEWS

THE CURE IS IN THE HOME

"Asked to comment on a judge's statement that in 17 years on the bench not one Chinese teen-ager had been brought before him on a juvenile delinquency charge, P. H. Chang, Chinese Consul-General in New York, said: 'I have heard this story many times from many judges. I will tell you why I think this is so. Filial piety is a cardinal virtue my people brought over from the China that was free. A Chinese child, no matter where he lives, is brought up to recognize that he cannot shame his parents...he stops to think...Will they be proud, or will they be ashamed?'

"The amazing record of the Chinese children and young people shows that it is in the home that the cure for juvenile delinquency will be found." -Port Jervis (N.Y.) UNION GAZETTE

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